

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 were examined and reported in the Office Action. Claims 1-3, 5-6, 21-23, and 25-26 are rejected. Claims 1-40 remain.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 1-3, 5, 21-23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,544,726 issued to Topouzian, et al. ("Topouzian"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Applicant's claims 1 and 21 contain the limitations of "a plurality of aerodynamic standoff vanes." It is asserted that Topouzian discloses "a mounting hat 14 for a brake rotor 12 ... comprising: a lower section 14 coupled to an upper section 34, a plurality of aerodynamically shaped standoff vanes 46 each having a leading edge, a trailing edge, a top and a bottom coupled to the upper section ...and a plurality of vents 66." Topouzian, however, discloses that inwardly extending ends 46 are part of primary fins 40. These inwardly extending ends 46 of primary fins 40 are not standoff vanes. Moreover, inwardly extending ends 46 cannot be seen to cause a "standoff" from anything.

Applicant kindly directs the Examiner to view Applicant's Figure 6 for clarification purposes. In Applicant's Figure 6, it can be seen that vents 304 (also illustrated in Figure 3) are formed by standoff vanes 302 separating upper section 310 and rotor 600. Standoff vanes 302 give extra space or distance between upper section 310 and rotor 110. Vents 304 channels air flow 620 that is deflected by vanes 106 and rotor 600, thereby inducing this air flow into vents 304. Without standoff vanes 302, upper section 310 and rotor section 110 would be flush. Therefore, the inwardly extending ends 46 of Topouzian should not even be compared with Applicant's aerodynamic standoff vanes. Since the invention of Topouzian does not teach, suggest or disclose aerodynamic standoff vanes, Applicant's claims 1 and 21 are not anticipated by Topouzian. Additionally, the claims that depend directly or indirectly on claim: 1

and 21, namely claims 2-3, 5 and 22-23 and 25, respectively, are also not anticipated by Topouzian for the above same reason.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) rejections for claims 1-3, 5, 21-23 and 25 is respectfully requested.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 6 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Topouzian in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,810,123 issued to Giorgetti et al. ("Giorgetti"). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

It is asserted in the Office Action that Giorgetti shows "a mounting hat 10 where a standoff vane 14 is bored as shown in figure 2 to accept a lug 15." Giorgetti, however, discloses a plurality of forks 14, where each prong of a fork 14, prong 16 and prong 17, are pierced by coaxial holes 18 and 19, respectively. Lug 15 and fork 14, along with pin 22 form the attachment means 13. Forks 46 are not standoff vanes, but a main part of attachment means 13 to be formed from forks 14, lug 15 and pins 22. Forks 14 do not cause a "standoff" from anything.

As asserted above in section I, Topouzian does not teach, disclose or suggest the limitations of Applicant's claims 1 and 21, in which claims 6 and 26 indirectly depend on, respectively, of "a plurality of aerodynamic standoff vanes." Therefore, it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Topouzian in view of Giorgetti.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) rejections for claims 6 and 26 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending, namely 1-40, patentably defines the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,
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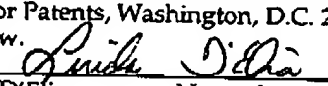
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